

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 15-17, 20-23 and 27-28 remain pending in this application. Claims 3-4, 7, 18-19 and 24-26 have been canceled and claims 8-14 withdrawn. Claims 1, 5, and 27-28 are amended to address issues raised by the Examiner under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The Title of the Invention is amended.

The rejection of claims 1-2, 5, 15-17, 20-23 and 27-28 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph is overcome by the amendments to the claims. The rejection of claim 6 is traversed, claim 6 reciting that the work is ejected [while still] merged with the carrier as described in the specification:

In the first double side polishing method and apparatus according to the present invention, the polished work may be ejected from the lower surface plate separately from the carrier or may remain merged therewith during the ejection, but the latter is more preferable in simplifying the structure of the apparatus. That is, when the polished work remains merged with the carrier during ejection from the lower surface plate, the supply mechanism for supplying the works and the carriers onto the lower surface plate can be used as a mechanism for ejecting them.

Specification at page 9, line 26 – page 10, line 8.

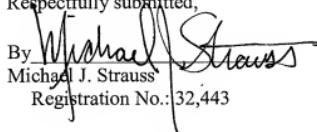
Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-2, 5-6, 15-17, 20-23 and 27-28 is requested.

The indication that claims 1-2, 5-6, 15-17, 20-23 and 27-28 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is acknowledged and appreciated. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 5-6, 15-17, 20-23 and 27-28 are now in condition for allowance and an early notification of allowance is respectfully solicited.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. **474082001100**.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Michael J. Strauss
Registration No.: 32,443

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 Tysons Blvd, Suite 400
McLean, Virginia 22102
Telephone: (703) 760-7359
Facsimile: (703) 760-7777

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